

ALEXANDRIA HOUSING AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING

DATE: MAY 18, 2020

TIME: 6:00-7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Introductions and Chair remarks (Chair) 6:00 p.m.
2. Consideration of Affordable Housing Plan for North Potomac Yard Coordinated Development District (Sara Brandt-Vorel/Cathy Puskar/Helen McIlvaine) 6:05 p.m.
Action Requested: Review and Vote on Affordable Housing Plan
3. Update on Affordable Housing and Citywide Rental Assistance Programs (Eric Keeler) 6:40 p.m.
4. Announcements and Upcoming Housing Meetings (Staff) 6:50 p.m.
Housing Expo: novahousingexpo.org
Accessory Dwelling Unit Study: alexandriava.gov/113872
5. Informational Items 6:55 p.m.
Q3 FY20 Housing Master Plan Progress Report
- Adjournment (Chair) 7:00 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, the May 18, 2020 meeting of the Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) and/or the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on April 18, 2020. All of the members of the Committee and staff are participating from remote locations through a Zoom video conference. The meeting can be accessed live by the public through Zoom at the following link, https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_23QQ6cCBTTGAwzYoiSdl9g; or dial in number, 301-715-8592. Webinar ID: 965 9638 1169; Password: 806443. Public comment will be received at the meeting. A recording of the meeting will be posted at alexandriava.gov/74631.



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-0865 **Name:**

Type: **Status:** Agenda Ready

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On agenda: 5/12/2020 **Final action:**

Title: Consideration of the Proposed Plans for use of Federal CARES Act Funding for Residential Rental Assistance, Food Security and Small Business Assistance and COVID-19 Related Expenses of the City Government.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. 20-0865_Attachment 1_Proposed Utilization of Federal COVID-19 Related CARES ACT Funding, 2. 20-0865_Attachment 2_Residential Rental Assistance Plan, 3. 20-0865_Attachment 3_Food Security Plan, 4. 20-0865_Attachment 4_Small Business Grants Program, 5. 20-0865_Attachment 5_COVID-19 Response Recovery Initiatives Chart

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 7, 2020

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER /s/

DOCKET TITLE:

Consideration of the Proposed Plans for use of Federal CARES Act Funding for Residential Rental Assistance, Food Security and Small Business Assistance and COVID-19 Related Expenses of the City Government.

ISSUE: What are the major COVID-19 pandemic impacts on the Alexandria community, what should the City government's response to those impacts be, and how should the City allocate the forthcoming Federal CARES Act funding?

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

1. Affirm that the prime priorities of the City for the use of CARES Act funding are for funding the City's direct response expenses to the COVID-19 crisis, the funding of the expansion of the Alexandria Health

Department's epidemiological staffing, the funding of expanded residential rental assistance, food assistance to needy individuals and families, and the provision of assistance to small businesses;

2. Approve the proposed Residential Rent Assistance Program, Food Security Plan and Small Business Grant Program as detailed in Attachments 2, 3, and 4;
3. Direct the City Manager to implement receipt of the above initiatives contingent upon the receipt of a federal CARES allocation from the Commonwealth of Virginia; and
4. Approve the allocation of the federal CARES funds as displayed on Attachment 1 and as outlined in the Fiscal Impact section of this report.

BACKGROUND: Since the onset of the COVID-19 virus pandemic, the City has been undertaking a series of actions and implementing plans (1) to protect the health of residents, workers and visitors to the City; (2) to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the community; (3) to assist those businesses with adjusting to a partial shutdown and then a stay-at-home directive, and (4) to assist those residents of the community who have lost their jobs and income and ability to feed their families. Much of the first months the City's focus has been on the health aspects of this crisis, as well as on immediate new health and economic issues that the City faces on a day-to-day basis. During this time period much has been accomplished, however there remains much to address in regard to the short and medium-term impacts of the shutdown large segments of our community. While the City put in place food distribution programs, and increased its emergency housing assistance grants, and assisted businesses in many ways, there is far more to be done in addressing what may be the largest U.S. economic downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930's.

The quick fall into the abyss of this recession will not likely be see a quick recovery, but a long recovery due in part to the significant food service/visitor segment of Alexandria's economy that City has relied upon and which is now functioning at a low level, and may take more than a year to fully recover due in part to the potential for a long flattened curve run time for the current COVID-19 virus, the potential for a virus return during next Winter's flu season, as well as due to the likely tenuous financial condition of many of these businesses.

While the federal and state programs such as SNAP, Medicaid, Unemployment Compensation and TANF will assist some, there are many in the Alexandria community who are not documented and therefore are not eligible for federally funded benefits. In addition to individual residents, small businesses will also need assistance if they are going to reopen and be able to stay open. The conclusion, which is largely universally agreed to, is that more assistance will be needed, so the questions which need to be decided are how much assistance should be provided, and in what form that assistance should be provided.

The Mayor in his March 17 memo: "*COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES*" to Council listed some 19 different items under the three umbrella categories of *Human Service Response*, *Small Business Rescue*, and *Municipal Finance*. Most of the items on this lengthy *Response and Recovery* list have been implemented (including the *Municipal Finance* items which were handled as part of the FY 2021 Proposed Budget Version 2.0 process), but there are three areas that need to have a much larger and sustained response. These areas relate to residential rental, food security and small business assistance.

RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE: One of the biggest financial needs that has been created by COVID-19 triggered high unemployment has been the inability of many City's 40,000 renters to pay their monthly rent. It is estimate that some 20% of rent could not be paid by renters in April with that number likely to increase to has high as 50% rent delinquency by June. While it appears that most landlords in the City have been following the Mayor's request made last month which asked for abatement of penalties, interest and the creation of payment plan options, the unpaid rent remains a major problem that is only going to grow as the impact of COVID-19 continues in the months ahead. *A proposed Residential Rental Assistance Program is detailed in Attachment 2.*

FOOD SECURITY: Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the City through its partner agencies has been assisting with food distribution to needy individuals and families. This has included two allocations to ALIVE! totaling \$270,000, as well as two allocations totaling \$200,000 as challenge match funds for the ACT NOW COVID-19 Fund which has raised some \$539,000 in private donations to date with funding being allocated to non-profits who provide social services including food assistance. In addition, the City has partnered with ACPS in assisting with the ACPS multi-site, multi-day per week food distribution program. Most recently, the City partnered with the World Central Kitchen organization in meal distribution events. Since the beginning of March, the City has received and approved a flood of new applications for federal SNAP food benefits. As it is likely that the unemployment of service sector employees particularly in the hotel and restaurant sectors will remain high through the remainder of the Spring and the Summer, there will be an ongoing need to provide food to many City residents. *A proposed Food Security Plan is detailed in Attachment 3.*

SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS: In addition to individual economic impact of the COVID-19 virus, there has been a major impact on many of Alexandria's businesses during this health crisis. Many small businesses have closed or have had their income greatly reduced due to the impact of the needed social distancing as well as the stay-at-home guidance. While the federal forgivable and non-forgivable SBA loans have been of assistance to many small and medium sized businesses, such assistance is not likely to be sufficient. *As a result, the Alexandria Economic Development partnership has developed a proposed Small Business Grant Program which is detailed in Attachment 4. (Forthcoming)*

FUNDING OF THESE INITIATIVES: The federal CARES Act legislation that was approved and signed into law on March 27 included a Corona Virus Relief Fund with \$139 billion allocated to states with the intent that states then retain some of the funds and then also allocate some of these CARES funds to their local governments. Virginia has been allocated \$3.325 billion in total for state and local use. Large jurisdictions in the U.S., with populations of 500,000 or greater, can automatically receive 45% on a per capita basis from the allocation that was made to the states where those large jurisdictions are located. Fairfax County was the only such eligible jurisdiction in Virginia and will receive an automatic allocation.

The Mayor has written to Secretary of Finance Layne and indicated that all other Virginia localities should be allocated on a per capita basis at least the same 45% share. Fairfax County is eligible for about \$200 million, and if Alexandria receives the same 45% per capita share as Fairfax, then the Alexandria amount would be approximately \$27 million. The Secretary of Finance indicated today that Virginia's allocation will largely be made to localities on a per capita basis and possibly a few other factors will be applied, but no indication to date has been given of the amounts to be allocated to localities. The City should know its allocation by May 15.

This federal Corona Virus Relief Fund element of the CARES Act outlined specific purposes for which these federal funds could be used. Unlike most federal legislation and regulations, the federal law allows a broad

range of uses for programs that:

1. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19);
2. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of the date of enactment (March 27, 2020) of this section of the state or government; and
3. Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

Additional guidance has been received from the federal government. For Alexandria this would mean that any costs for personnel or non-personnel items that were included in the FY 2020 budget could not be considered for CARES reimbursement, nor could any personnel or non-personnel item not related to the current public health emergency, and that the funds would need to be spent during the window of March 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020. This means that expenditures that were not previously budgeted and that the City has incurred in relation to preparing for an addressing the COVID-19 pandemic are likely all eligible for CARES funding including reimbursement for expenses incurred to date such as for PPE, most emergency response special pay, housing for homeless families, acquiring additional technology, etc. can all be reimbursed with these federal monies.

In addition, similar expenses through the end of the calendar year 2020 would also be eligible to be funded with these federal CARES Act dollars. This would include the expansion of the Health Department's epidemiological functions as discussed in a recent budget work session and as included in the FY 2021 Budget Version 2.0. It is not known what the final level of the total COVID-19 expenses will be, but staff feels that a \$10 million cost amount is not inconceivable.

These federal funding definitions and further federal guidance issued this week also allow for the implementation of new or expanded programs to assist renters, small businesses and for food assistance. It is allowable to consider the costs of addressing the financial impacts of COVID-19 on the community as eligible CARES Act expenses.

FISCAL IMPACT: At this time without an allocation decision from the State, it is speculative how much in CARES Act funds the City will be allocated, but if the City receives the same per capita allocation as Fairfax County can receive from the federal government, then the City would receive \$27 million of the CARES Act funding. The amount allocated by the State may be lower or higher.

Regardless of the dollar amount of the allocation, it is projected that \$10 million may be sufficient to cover the City's out-of-pocket COVID-19 direct expenses. To date, the City has likely expended about \$5 million in COVID-19 related new expenses, so staff believes that the \$10 million may be sufficient funding through the end of calendar year 2020.

There is still discussion at the federal level related to additional federal financial assistance in a COVID Phase 4 legislation. In late April Congress approved COVID Phase 3.5 funding, but no additional funding to local governments was included in this COVID Phase 3.5 legislation. The COVID Phase 4 legislation, if there is added local government funding, may allow that new funding to be used to offset local government revenue losses caused by COVID-19. The City's currently estimated revenue loss is \$92 million, which may increase if the disease's impact lasts longer than the City has projected in its revenue assumptions and/or strongly reappears next flu season.

Since the amount of federal CARES funds the City will receive is currently unknown, the following allocation formula is proposed:

	<u>\$ in Millions</u>
TOTAL CARES ALLOCATION	\$ TBD
LESS CITY COVID RESPONSE COST	(-10.0)
LESS HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING	(-1.0)
	<hr/> \$TBD

BALANCE TO BE ALLOCATED PER ATTACHMENT 1 OR PROPORTIONATELY AMONG THE FOOD SECURITY, RENTAL ASSISTANCE SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS AND RESERVE CATEGORIES AS SHOWN IN ATTACHMENT 1.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Utilization of Federal COVID-19 Related CARES ACT Funding
2. Residential Rental Assistance Plan
3. Food Security Plan
4. Small Business Grants Program
5. COVID-19 Response and Recovery Initiatives

PROPOSED UTILIZATION OF FEDERAL COVID-19 RELATED CARES ACT FUNDS⁴**POTENTIAL ALLOCATION RANGE**

	<u>Lower Estimate (\$ in million)</u>	<u>Higher Estimate (\$ in million)</u>
COVID-19 CITY RESPONSE COSTS⁵	\$10.0	\$10.0
HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFFING⁶	1.0	1.0
FOOD SECURITY PLAN⁷	2.0	3.0
RESIDENTIAL RENTAL ASSISTANCE⁸	3.0	5.0
SMALL BUSINESS GRANTS⁹	2.0	3.0
RESERVE¹⁰	2.0	5.0
TOTAL	\$20.0	\$27.0

⁴ AMOUNT OF FEDERAL CARES ACT FUNDS TO BE ALLOCATED TO THE CITY UNKNOWN AS OF 5/6/20

⁵ CITY DIRECT RESPONSE COSTS INCLUDE PPE, EMERGENCY RESPONSE PAY, TECHNOLOGY ACQUISITIONS, HOTEL EXPENSES, COMMUNICATIONS MATERIALS, MAILINGS, ETC.

⁶ REFLECTS FUNDING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT EPIDEMIOLOGICAL CAPABILITIES

⁷ SEE ATTACHMENT 3 FOR PLAN

⁸ SEE ATTACHMENT 2 FOR PLAN

⁹ SEE ATTACHMENT 4 FOR PLAN (*FORTHCOMING*)

¹⁰ FUNDING FOR NOT YET KNOWN EXPENSES BETWEEN NOW AND 12/30/20



Alexandria Proposed Citywide COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program

Program Goal: To efficiently and equitably assist Alexandria renters experiencing housing insecurity and financial hardship due to COVID-19 related loss of income. The Rental Assistance Program (Program) is designed to reduce the amount of rent owed that would otherwise have to be repaid in the future by a renter household as the economy recovers. Many landlords are offering repayment plans ranging up to twelve months, depending on the renter household's remaining lease term. Some are requiring that renters pay a percentage of the monthly rent as a prerequisite for a repayment plan. Program payments will be made to landlords for the benefit of the renter household's account. The Program will work with rental properties located within the City's corporate limits and/or with their residents, through DCHS and community-based organizations, including those providing emergency financial assistance to deploy all rental assistance funds ASAP and NLT December 31, 2020. All renters needing relief, and/or landlords offering relief in the form of repayment plans, are encouraged to apply for this assistance, however, determinations regarding funding will prioritize households determined to have the greatest needs as defined by the Program, based on available resources.

Program Budget/Funding: The City Manager has recommended \$3 million initially for the Program from CARES Act funds administered through the State of Virginia. In anticipation of additional funds being secured in the future, the Program design will be flexible and scalable, including the need targeted, the number of households served, the amount of assistance provided, and the duration of the benefit term.

Delivery system: To reach households already pursuing assistance through DCHS and/or community-based organizations, the program will target resources as follows:

- Funding allocation to DCHS assistance programs to supplement resources for eligible households who have applied for, and need, rental assistance (this would be separate from other funding DCHS may receive to aid special populations or households meeting specific income or other eligibility criteria)
- Funding allocation to Community-based Rent Relief Providers (e.g., interfaith emergency network or neighborhood services groups)
- Funding Allocation to Program (to be administered through the Housing Office) based on household referrals from Landlords and/or as demonstrated through executed rental repayment plans

Who is eligible:

- Households who experience documented loss of income directly related to COVID-19 (regardless of legal status).
- Households who were current on rent as of March 31, 2020
- Households who meet the City residency and income eligibility criteria described below (all income, including all relief and financial assistance, regardless of source) are the first-priority group

Subcategories:

- Households who have requested rental payment relief from their landlords, including future repayment agreements*
- Households who have requested or will request emergency rental assistance from the City

- Households who have requested or will request emergency rental assistance from Community-based Rent Relief Providers
- Households who have qualified for the City's initial CDBG COVID-19 funded affordable housing rental

Income Guidelines**	Tier 1 - 50% of Virginia Median Income	Tier 2 – 60% of Area Median Income
Family Size	Monthly Gross	Monthly Gross
1	\$2,177	\$4,410
2	\$2,847	\$5,040
3	\$3,517	\$5,670
4	\$4,187	\$6,300
5	\$4,856	\$6,805
6	\$5,526	\$7,310
Asset limit	Must exhaust cash/on hand resources, including savings, to one-half or less of the monthly gross amount for household size (documented through bank statements or other).	

assistance program who were not served by that program

Who is not eligible, generally:

- Households with a Tenant based voucher
 - Households residing in Project Based Voucher projects
 - Households residing in Public Housing
 - Households receiving other government-based rental assistance
- The above households may be eligible for the portion of rent not covered by other assistance programs. Rental assistance may consider unemployment and other benefits received, as well as a household's documented extraordinary needs within program parameters. Extraordinary need criteria are TBD.

Assistance Per Household:

- Up to 3 months of assistance
- Up to \$600 per month toward unpaid rent amounts from April 1 forward that are related to COVID 19 (amount reflects estimated per unit per month operating costs to benefit/induce Landlords to work with renters in good faith through the repayment period)
- All rent assistance payments will be made directly to landlords on behalf of renter households, with the renter household's verification

Coordination:

Database to be developed will verify Program assistance by address to avoid duplication of assistance

Projected number to be served:

- For \$3 million, approximately 1,660 households will be served a maximum allowed total assistance amount of \$1,800.

Outreach and Communications Plan

- For residents: culturally competent messaging; multiple languages (Amharic, Arabic, English, Spanish, other) and multiple formats including social media (Facebook and Twitter), texts, as well as traditional methods (website, etc.)
- Communications with property owners/landlords, including program protocols and documentation required
- Activate informal network of community leaders to help present/explain program to neighbors (e.g., TWU, Casa Chirilagua, tenant associations and FBC/churches, including non-English congregations)
- Outreach or other communication/handout in conjunction with any planned community events (e.g., food distributions, World Central Kitchen, ACPS feeding program, Meals on Wheels, Sheriff and APD community interactions)
- Targeted outreach to underserved populations, including small Landlords and undocumented Alexandrians

Administration and Implementation

- Program needs to be scalable depending on final Budget
- Coordination with existing programs
- Methodology for eligibility determination and documentation of needs processing, including referrals to other resources
- Coordination with other assistance (database)
- Training and staffing, including potential city staff available through EOC
- Methodology for processing of payments
- Transparency in tracking and reporting
- Target for efficient deployment of funds, including client/Landlord contact through determination and payment processing and follow up

The Program will be administered by Housing and offered in coordination with City landlords and renters, DCHS, ARHA and Community-based Rent Relief Providers, including the Emergency Financial Assistance Provider Network.



Alexandria COVID-19 Proposed Food Security Plan

The impact of COVID-19 on the residents of Alexandria who are newly facing unemployment and those who lacked financial security prior to the pandemic has been significant. The demand for food and financial support has increased exponentially since the pandemic began. Some illustrations of these increases include:

- During the month of April, 845 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) applications were processed. Last April, 297 applications were processed.
- The Lazarus Emergency Ministry provided just over \$108,000 in assistance for the entire year in 2019 and they have provided more than \$50,000 in the two months since the pandemic began.
- Unemployment claims went from just over 2,000 in February to more than 8,300 in mid-April.

We are fortunate in the City that there has been significant ongoing work being done to address food and economic insecurity by the City, ACPS, non-profit organizations and faith communities. Through ALIVE, the pantry network, emergency financial providers and the City, much has been done to respond to the emerging needs during this pandemic. The many organizations that focus on the well-being of individuals and families across the city have seen tremendous increase in requests that require more resources and shifts in how the resources are provided; examples include:

- ALIVE has responded in multiple ways to the shifting landscape by supplying food for quarantined individuals and families, increasing deliveries to seniors and providing food for the unsheltered homeless.
- Senior Services of Alexandria's Meals on Wheels program, in partnership with DCHS' Aging and Adult Services, has expanded its home delivered meals program to include older adults who are needing to self-isolate, with the numbers increasing each week.
- St. Vincent de Paul shifted its priority funding from rent to grocery gift cards when the requests from residents were dominated by food insecurity.

- Volunteer Alexandria has worked to assure that volunteers are screened, trained and equipped with masks and gloves during food distribution events.

The following actions are recommended in order to fully combat the issues of food insecurity during this pandemic. The strategies below build on existing systems that respond to the needs of Alexandrians, while increasing the frequency, the breadth and the scope of services. These costs are scalable based upon the amount of CARES funds available.

Approach/Frequency	Individuals Served	Cost
Large Scale food Distributions: 2 per month	8,000 people	\$56,000 monthly
Pop-up bag distributions in impacted neighborhoods/apartment complexes (considerations for locations below), weekly	1000 people per month (250 per week)	\$7,000 monthly
World Central Kitchen wrap-around service, weekly	1000 people (250 per week)	\$7,000 monthly
Support to 13 pantries (range of bags provided from 120 to 400, depending on capacity and need)	1,500+ households monthly	\$14,000 monthly
Home Delivery of 14 frozen meals for self-isolating older adults	100 people weekly	\$26,000 monthly
Home Delivery to individuals and families in ARHA and AHDC housing and in multiple non-profit programs (including Casa Chirilagua, Child and Family Network Center, ALIVE)	Serving 1,125 people monthly	\$12,625 monthly
Serving households under quarantine and maintaining a reserve	25 households and 20 in reserve	\$3,700 monthly
Grocery Gift Card Distribution ¹ through the Emergency Financial provider network/faith communities, non-profit programs and DCHS	1,000 families for \$400 per family	\$400,000 monthly
TOTALS	13,750	\$532,325

Sites for the distribution of food are being identified in order to serve the most negatively impacted during the COVID19 pandemic. The following include the data elements that are being reviewed in order to determine the most appropriate locations:

- Location of all residential households in Alexandria (demand)
- Sidewalk network (travel mode)
- Location of current food/financial assistance distribution providers in Alexandria (supply)

¹ May also include distribution of assistance by issuance of checks.

- CDC Social Vulnerability Index
- Families eligible for Free and Reduced Meals
- Families receiving SNAP benefits

If additional data elements become available, such as high concentrations of individuals who have applied for unemployment, they will be factored into the selection of future distribution sites.

In addition to the strategies above there continues to be additional food security work being done by ACPs and the newly emerging support from World Central Kitchen. While no additional funding is being requested for these efforts at this time, resources continue to be needed for the success of these efforts including, staff and volunteer hours, transportation, planning, and logistical support. These efforts will serve thousands of additional families.

With each distribution event, efforts will be made to maximize the opportunity with participating individuals to provide multiple resources, as well as information about services including rental assistance, unemployment benefits, SNAP, TANF, and Medicaid benefits and the locations of food resources.

Throughout the implementation of this plan, we will work to assess the effectiveness in all areas, including:

- Reaching individuals and families in greatest need
- Reducing exposure for impacted families
- Practicing health and safety practices
- Building longer-term economic security approaches
- Maximizing all resources to support the efforts
- Integration of service opportunities

These efforts will be successful through the utilization of strong partnerships across the community and through effective outreach and communication. These are essential as we work to assure that all impacted individuals and families receive the support that they need during this pandemic. The lessons learned through these efforts will inform our planning and possible service restructuring as we go forward.

Department of Community and Human Services

5/7/20



DATE: MAY 7, 2020

FROM: STEPHANIE LANDRUM, PRESIDENT & CEO, ALEXANDRIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (AEDP)

THROUGH: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR & MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES FOR THE ALEXANDRIA BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND RELATED PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The purpose of this memo is twofold:

- 1) to provide an update on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and actions taken to date by Alexandria's economic development agencies to assist Alexandria's business community.
- 2) respond to strategies offered by Mayor Wilson and City Council and outline implementation plans for an Alexandria business grant program.

Initial Response

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a profound impact on Alexandria's business community and the City's economic health. The City's three economic development agencies – the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership (AEDP), the Alexandria Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and Visit Alexandria (VALX) – have shifted into disaster response mode focused on assisting local businesses. All three agencies have paused or scaled back non-essential programs and are operating virtually. Daily, our teams are communicating with federal and state partners, trade associations and industry groups, and our peers in the region to ensure we have the latest updates and information on disaster assistance programs.

At AEDP and SBDC, outreach and assistance efforts have focused on providing information on disaster assistance programs and commercial landlord/tenant issues and outreach to the commercial real estate community. Visit Alexandria staff have been focused on supporting and promoting businesses in the hospitality, restaurant and retail industries. The following statistics give insight into the level of engagement with the business community and need:

March 16 – April 30, 2020

Agency	Individual Businesses Assisted	Newsletter/ Listserv Reach	Dedicated COVID-19 Website Views	Survey Respondents
AEDP	401	10,979	6,236	672
SBDC	244	1,981	2,509	N/A*
VALX**	N/A***	828	110,000	171

*Included in AEDP survey

**Data as of April 20

***Direct outreach has focused on virtual group meetings

Direct engagement with businesses and survey data indicates that the COVID-19 pandemic is highly disruptive to local business operations. The majority of survey respondents have reported experiencing year-over-year declines in revenue due to a dramatic reduction in consumer spending. Visit Alexandria reports hotels are also feeling the effects from the loss of advanced bookings. The data suggests longer-term impacts will evolve as most businesses report they will be delaying upcoming projects or planned investments and are considering laying off employees if they have not done so already.

Response Efforts & Strategies

Economic development staff are approaching this crisis as a three-phased event: Immediate Response, Stabilization, and Recovery. The City Council, City Staff, and economic development agencies have already enacted policies or launched initiatives to provide immediate relief and support to the business community. Staff continues to research mid-to-long-term strategies and initial ideas are listed below.

Phase 1: Immediate Response

Timeline: March 16 – June 10, 2020

Tax & Regulatory Changes (City of Alexandria)

- Deferring and/or extending payment timelines for certain business taxes
- Suspending enforcement of certain regulations and special use permit conditions related to hours of operation, deliveries, off-premise alcohol sales, and outdoor sales and dining
- Suspending enforcement of certain parking restrictions

Business Community Support

- Creating “one-stop” newsletters and websites with regularly updated information on disaster assistance programs, policy/regulatory changes, and other initiatives. (AEDP, SBDC & VALX)
- Dedicated staff to assist business owners who are impacted by COVID-19. Staff is focused on helping businesses understand local/state business restrictions, landlord/tenant issues, and any issue not related to federal disaster relief programs. (AEDP) *See below for SBDC efforts related to federal programs.*
- Assisted the Alexandria/Arlington Regional Workforce Council with promoting and awarding a limited amount of federal funds for WIOA Layoff-Aversion grants. Ten Alexandria businesses were awarded grants totaling \$54,397 with an average grant award of \$5,400. These grants are projected to save 115 jobs. (AEDP)
- ALX at Home, started on March 16, is a new platform launched to maximize revenues in the short term for businesses that remain open by adapting their sales format to current public safety requirements. The web hub highlights more than 150 ways residents can continue to support local businesses and includes 100+ restaurants, 50+ retail offerings, 11 museums and 6 arts organizations. (VALX)
- Farmers’ Market To-Go, highlighting dozens of vendors offering advance orders and pick-up options at Alexandria’s farmers’ markets. (VALX)
- ALX at Home LIVE, weekly live series of how-to videos and demos featuring Alexandria businesses. (VALX)
- Ongoing educational programming and individual industry sector video/teleconference convenings for hotels, restaurants and retailers to share adaptive strategies and get business input. (VALX & AEDP)

Federal Disaster Assistance Programs (SBDC)

- The Federal government implemented several policies and programs aimed at blunting the impact of this disaster. These include: Economic Injury Disaster Grant/Loan Program, the Paycheck Protection Program, the SBA Express Bridge Loan Program, the SBA Debt Relief Program, and several federal tax policy changes.
- Some of these policies are new and require the establishment of regulations and protocols which slows down the government and lender's ability to get relief to businesses. Economic development staff, the lending community, and business owners are working daily to understand the new programs and rules, as they evolve.
- The SBDC has led the coordination to connect businesses with the proper federal disaster assistance programs. This has included establishing a dedicated COVID-19 webpage and providing one-on-one assistance to business owners. Plans are in place to scale staffing to support the increase in demand for SBDC assistance.
- AEDP and the SBDC have requested information from the SBA about the impact of these programs in the City- the SBA is only reporting loan totals (successful applications and total amounts awarded) at the state level at this point.

Local Disaster Assistance Programs (Proposed)

- Numerous jurisdictions in our region have announced and/or are crafting programs that would provide local disaster assistance in the form of grants or loans to businesses. The Mayor's memo proposed a *Small Business Stabilization Fund* to provide micro-loans to qualifying small businesses.
- At the April 28, 2020 City Council legislative meeting, AEDP recommended that funding be provided in the form of a grant- details about the framework for this program follow in the next section of this memo.

Phase 2: Stabilization

Timeline- June 10 – September 30, 2020

Staff has been contributing to policy discussions with state and regional partners on the development of programs that would help businesses stabilize once changes to the public health crisis allow for the partial or full resumption of normal business operations. Below are two proposals that are currently being discussed.

GO Virginia

- At the state level, a new \$1M allocation of funds has been made to the GO Virginia program, to support economic relief and recovery efforts at the regional level. AEDP staff is working with our partners in the Northern Virginia Economic Development Alliance (NOVA EDA) to unlock some of this funding, as well as millions of dollars in prior allocations, to support recovery efforts at the regional level. In the coming weeks, we will share more information about these proposal with the Manager and City Council.

NOVA EDA Webinar Series

- AEDP is collaborating with partners at the Northern Virginia Economic Development Alliance NOVA EDA to implement a multi-part, free webinar series to help guide businesses through the stabilization and recovery phases. The series covers topics that will help businesses that remain

in operation assess the damage from the COVID-19 crisis and create strategies to stabilize, recover, and grow their business.

Phase 3: Recovery

Timeline- October 1, 2020 - ??

Staff has begun researching longer-term strategies to help the City and business community recover.

Research on Economic Resiliency

- Staff is researching strategies that were used following prior economic downturns (i.e., post-9/11, post-Great Recession, etc.) and developing longer-term plans to help affected businesses recover and identify new industry sector Alexandria may want to attract.
- Along with the Department of Planning & Zoning, AEDP is leading the Economic Recovery unit within the City's EOC structure and will be addressing business and public space reopening and longer term regulatory changes to support recovery moving forward.

Business Recovery Task Force

- Economic development staff support the Mayor's proposal to create a task force to identify concepts for recovery of Alexandria's economy. AEDP has experience leading such task forces (i.e., Economic Sustainability Work Group) and is prepared to do so again.

Marketing Programs

- Because of the current crisis, AEDP and VALX have currently scaled back spending on marketing and advertising to core audiences (i.e., tourists, meeting planners, site selectors, etc.). These funds will be used to promote Alexandria as a tourist destination and business center that is "open for business" once travel and business restrictions are lifted. Both groups are working on Marketing Recovery Plans, and will be ready to implement at the health crisis subsides.

Alexandria Business Grant Program Framework

On May 1, 2020, Governor Northam outlined the general plans and milestones that Virginia must observe to move towards reopening. The Governor's "Forward Virginia" plan includes a three-part, phased-in approach to restarting the state's economy. The Governor's plan notes that continued health and safety requirements will remain in place even as non-essential businesses reopen. For example, limitations on gatherings (to include numbers of employees and customers in a single location), physical and social distancing measures, and the use of personal protective equipment will be mandatory in order to comply with the Governor's directives. These requirements will place additional financial burdens on Alexandria's small businesses as they prepare to reopen or rescale operations.

The business grant program, [Name TBD], will provide grants to certain Alexandria businesses, with a focus on offsetting costs related to reopening and operating in the new COVID-19 business environment. Awards will initially be funded through a combination of reallocated Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Bond Fee Revenue and new federal CARES Act dollars- additional sources of funding may be identified as the program is finalized. It is currently anticipated that the fund could range from \$4-\$6 million. The goal of the [Name TBD] is to accelerate the business' return to profitability which will stabilize business income, protect jobs, and shore up the City's commercial tax base. In coordination with the grant program, wrap around services and support will be provided to businesses on reopening requirements.

from the federal, state and local governments, as well as best practices focused on long term business sustainability.

The following purpose, goals and outcomes will guide the program design and delivery:

Purpose:

The [Name TBD] will provide grants to eligible Alexandria-based businesses to offset costs and/or investments related to reopening.

Goals & Outcomes:

Goal – To accelerate the recovery and profitability of Alexandria businesses negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

Desired Outcomes –

- Stabilization and eventual growth of business' income
- Protection and growth of local jobs
- Stabilization and eventual growth of business tax revenue
- Protection of the commercial real estate tax base

Eligibility Framework:

In order for a business to be eligible, they must demonstrate they meet defined criteria around businesses structure, length of time in business, compliance with City fiscal and regulatory policies (“in good standing”), number of employees, physical footprint in commercial space, and compromised business activity as a result of the Governor’s Executive Order 53. Criteria will also clearly define businesses or organizations that are not eligible.

Grant Amounts:

Businesses will be awarded a one-time grant of up to \$20,000.

A grant fund of \$4-\$6 million allows for 200 to 500 businesses to be served by the program, ultimately dependent on the average grant request.

Acceptable Use of Grant Funds:

Expenses related to facilitating the successful reopening of the business and a return to profitability.

This may include but is not limited to:

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Other equipment and supplies to promote health and safety
- Technology to facilitate e-commerce and/or virtual business operations*
- Professional services related to the design and construction/alteration of the built environment necessary to promote physical and social distancing, as well as the actual costs for alterations
- Initial cleaning and disinfection services prior to reopening

*Businesses may request reimbursement for investments in technology made on or after January 1, 2020.

Application & Review Process (Under Development):

A multi-stage process is envisioned to properly manage the expected high volume of applications and to ensure only businesses who meet all the criteria move through the process. Because the total number of grant requests will likely be higher than the amount of funds available, a clear and objective scoring system will be used to determine grant awards.

The scoring system will be finalized in collaboration with a third-party firm with experience reviewing business plans and facilitating access to capital. AEDP is currently soliciting vendors. Given the program's intended goals and desired outcomes, the scoring system will be designed to favor businesses that were in a strong financial position prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and which demonstrate that they have taken action to promote business resiliency. Applicants will be required to explain how grant funds will be used to expedite the successful reopening of their business and its return to profitability. The third-party firm will be charged with recommending which businesses receive grants based on the pre-determined scoring system, to maintain the highest level of objectiveness and transparency.

The internal team administering this program will consist of members of the AEDP administrative, research and business development departments. To efficiently move applications through the screening process, an interdepartmental team to include staff from the City Departments of Finance, Performance Accountability and Planning & Zoning will be used. Staff from these departments will be detailed to this project for the duration of the grant evaluation and award process, but will not need to be completely relieved from their current responsibilities.

While still under development, generally the application and review process will consist of:

- *Initial Screening* – verification that the business has an existing business license, is in “Good Standing” with the City, has been in operation for at least one year, and operates from a business or commercial location in the city.
- *Secondary Screening* – verification that the business meets all of the other required criteria.
- *Final Review and Scoring* – application of the pre-determined scoring system, ranking of applicants, and determination of awards.
- *Notification* – businesses are notified of grant awards and enter into a standard Performance Agreement with AEDP.

Performance Agreement & Reporting:

Grantees will be required to enter into a Performance Agreement (PA) with AEDP. The PA will outline how the business intends to use the grant funds and include a reporting requirement. (Note: PA's have been historically used when AEDP has provided incentive grants to businesses)

Timeline (Under Development):

The following timeline is considered highly aggressive given the unknown number of applications that will need to be reviewed.

- Week of May 11th: briefing to City Council, and direction to proceed; finalization of third-party vendor contract for program design and management services; convening of interdepartmental team assigned to the grant program
- Week of May 18th: continued program design (eligibility, application requirements, scoring system, etc.), consideration of technology requirements; pre-application marketing efforts begin

- Week of May 25th: finalization of program design and technology requirements; continued marketing efforts
- Week of June 1st: application process goes live (72-hour period)
- Week of June 8th (2-week period): application review and scoring
- Week of June 22nd: notification of awards to grantees and execution of Performance Agreements
- Week of June 29th: transfer of grant funds to businesses.

Outreach:

AEDP will work with the Department of Finance to communicate with every licensed business in the City about this grant opportunity. Additionally, utilizing our partners in economic development, to include multi-lingual business counselors and colleagues, information about the grant opportunity will be disseminated through business and community organizations, websites and e-newsletters and social media.

Resource Requirements:

AEDP anticipates the following resource requirements, some of which are new expenses that were not included in the current year or FY 2021 budget request:

- Reallocation of up to 6 FTEs to assist with implementation of this program
- Temporary assignment of staff from the City Departments of Finance, Performance Accountability and Planning & Zoning
- Increased hours for professional accounting services related to processing and tracking grant awards (*additional cost*)
- A third-party vendor to assist with program design and the review/scoring of grant applications (*additional cost*)

The joint economic development staffs will continue to support Alexandria's business community during this unprecedented time. We continue to welcome ideas and suggestions that can be implemented quickly to aid Alexandria's business community throughout all three phases of the crisis.

cc: AEDP Board of Directors
 Emily Baker, Deputy City Manager
 Karl Moritz, Director, Department of Planning & Zoning
 Patricia Washington, President & CEO, Visit Alexandria
 Bill Reagan, Executive Director, Alexandria Small Business Development Center

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Human Service Response</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1	<p><i>Rental Assistance, Emergency Shelter & Eviction Services</i></p> <p>Supplemental funding to support expanded capacity for rental assistance, emergency shelter and eviction prevention services with the Department of Community and Human Services.</p>	On-going	<p>DCHS opened a 24/7 COVID-19 shelter for men and women experiencing homelessness at the Charles Houston Recreation Center. This shelter can serve in excess of 40 men and women so that social distancing can be safely accommodated.</p> <p>DCHS secured hotel for families and high-risk vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness to increase social distancing in the emergency shelters and promote adherence to Governor's sheltering in place order.</p> <p>DCHS is working to address the increased need for rental assistance, including scheduling over 100 client appointments per month.</p> <p>DCHS is partnering with the Office of Housing on the creation of a proposal for an expanded Citywide Rental Assistance Program possibly to be funded with federal CARES dollars.</p> <p>DCHS is educating residents on the eviction moratorium put in place by the CARES Act</p> <p>City Council approved Draft CFY 2021 Action Plan on April 18, 2020, including Proposed Use of \$671,570 in CDBG COVID-19 CARES Act supplemental grant fund allocation to provide rental assistance of up to \$1500 to eligible residents of City-supported affordable rental housing, including set-aside units.</p> <p>https://alexandria.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4417146&GUID=721BDBE1-2FBE-4E52-93A5-5A2E9C16EE86&FullText=1</p>

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Human Service Response</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
2	<p><i>Alexandria Fund for Human Services Supplement</i></p> <p>One-time, short-duration solicitation to fund existing, scalable non-profit capabilities to support emergent human-service needs in Alexandria as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak and response.</p>	Modified/On-going	<p>In lieu of issuing a short duration solicitation, staff has been working with current grant recipients requesting FY 20 budget line items adjustments to shift program approaches in order to stay connected to program participants and meet emergency needs.</p> <p>City Council provided \$200,000 in matching funds for the ACT NOW COVID-19 Fund which raised over \$500,000 in private monies to be granted to nonprofits to meet COVID-19 related client needs.</p>
3	<p><i>Nutrition Supplement</i></p> <p>Funds to support expanded capacity of existing senior nutrition programs and to support expansion and delivery of proposed ACPS nutrition programs.</p>	On-going	<p>Currently, we are offering residents 14 frozen meals per week for those aged 60 or above, their spouses, or an individual with a disability, regardless of age, who resides with a program recipient aged 60 or above; have difficulty getting food and are homebound because of COVID 19.</p> <p>As of the week of 4/27, 64 individuals will be served through this program, and an additional three homeless individuals may be added to this count, as well as any other new referrals.</p> <p>Those receiving the meals include participants from the Senior Center/Congregate Meal Program, the Adult Day Services Center, and clients of other Division of Aging and Adult Services units. As of 4/23, Senior Services volunteers delivered meals to 57 people.</p> <p>On 4/23, the notice about the availability of these meals was distributed to all DCHS staff and many community agencies.</p> <p>During spring break and as needed, RPCA staff have been providing support for delivery of ACPS nutrition programs.</p> <p>City Council provided \$270,000 to ALIVE! to fund costs of expanded emergency food distribution for those in need in Alexandria.</p>

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Human Service Response</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
4	<i>Local Social Service Extension</i> Request for extension of renewal requirements and additional funding to ensure continuity of existing local social services.	Complete	SNAP renewal requirements have been extended to September 1, 2020. SNAP Interview Waiver Moratorium on closing Medicaid cases, exceptions are death and moving to another jurisdiction.

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

5	<p><i>Seek Eviction Deferrals</i></p> <p>Formal request to landlords to defer eviction actions. Request to General Assembly to enact legislation deferring evictions.</p>	Complete/On-going	<p>Letter sent from Mayor Wilson to Alexandria Multifamily Property Owners and Landlords on 3/16 seeking relief for residents impacted by COVID-19, including rent repayment plans, no evictions, no late fees.</p> <p>https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/housing/20202MayorLandlordLetter_COVID19.pdf</p> <p>Office of Housing staff continue to follow up with property owners and have provided information and referrals to DCHS for hundreds of residents seeking assistance.</p> <p>Letter sent from to Governor Northam on March 19, 2020, signed by Mayor Wilson and the Mayors and Chairs of the Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Loudoun and Prince William and the City of Fairfax seeking housing and human services relief to mitigate impacts of COVID-19.</p> <p>The Supreme Court of Virginia declared a judicial emergency (suspending evictions) through May 17, 2020</p> <p>City Council approved Resolution No. 2937 on April 14, 2020 calling on U.S. Congress and Governor Northam to enact a moratorium on rent and mortgage payments.</p> <p>http://alexandria.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?M=F&ID=47390b15-20fd-47a1-9b55-5563dbff366c.pdf</p>
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COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Human Service Response</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
6	<p><i>Expanding Child-Care Fee Subsidy</i></p> <p>Add additional funding to support child-care for the children of parents working outside the home.</p>	Complete/On-going	<p>\$70 million in State Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) stimulus funds (CARES Act)</p> <p>New federal funding has been made available through the recently passed stimulus legislation to support programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This includes an additional \$70 million in funding to Virginia for FY2020. This funding is explicitly intended to support parents of young children whose participation in the workforce is of critical importance during this pandemic.• Virginia plans to use at least half of this new funding to support childcare programs that are open during the pandemic. This is not limited to programs that are currently participating in the Child Care Subsidy Program.
7	<p><i>AHOP Restoration</i></p> <p>Restore Affordable Homeownership Preservation Grant Program for single-year FY 2021 relief. Program provides real estate rebates to eligible homeowners meeting income qualifications.</p>	Pending	<p>At its April 28 Legislative meeting, City Council will direct staff regarding the proposed use of upcoming federal CARES Act monies, including options for rental assistance and/or real estate tax relief for income eligible homeowners.</p> <p>https://alexandria.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4426689&GUID=C5AE1A1D-4A78-4427-9295-03166B3A3294</p>

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Human Service Response</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
8	<p><i>Healthcare Capacity</i></p> <p>Provide funds to address emergent infrastructure, services, and staffing needs in support of healthcare delivery, including Alexandria Health Department, Neighborhood Health and INOVA Alexandria Hospital.</p>	On-going	<p>Eight (8) ACPS nurses are working with the Health Department 20 hours a week/five days a week.</p> <p>City staff assisting the Health Department with IT, HR and communications support. City staff resources offered to the Health Department when requested, if the City had the needed resources.</p> <p>Additional Epidemiologist was added through federal funding. Health is asking VDH to waive hiring freeze for one additional Epidemiologist.</p> <p>Additional need for other Health providers with CARES funding as possible source.</p> <p>City successfully advocated that INOVA establish testing capacity in the City, as well as assisted Neighborhood Health in their testing program in the City.</p>
9	<p><i>Enhanced Communications Capability</i></p> <p>Provide support to created dedicated COVID-19 communications channels to push out information throughout the community.</p>	Complete/On-going	<p>See attached Joint Information System (JIS) Report of extensive and ongoing communications to the community at-large, as well as targeted communities at risk.</p>

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Small Business Rescue</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
10	<i>Ease Dining Tax Collection</i> Eliminate late fees (retain interest accrual) on dining tax collection for the remainder of calendar year 2020.	Complete	Approved by City Council on April 18, 2020, meals and hotel taxes due to the City from March to June may be deferred without penalty or interest applied and with one year to repay.
11	<i>Small Business Stabilization Fund</i> Repurpose portion of business attraction funds to provide micro-loans to qualifying small businesses.	Modified/Pending	AEDP does not recommend micro loans, but is developing a proposal for a business grant program to be considered by City Council to possibly be funded with CARES dollars.
12	<i>SBA Loan Assistance</i> Provide staff assistance and support to assist small businesses in seeking Small Business Administration emergency loans.	On-going	AEDP and SBDC have been providing extensive on-going assistance to local businesses in applying for SBA loans.

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Small Business Rescue</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
13	<i>Allow Food Delivery/Pick-Up By-Right</i> Adopt emergency Text Amendment allowing a restaurant to provide delivery services by-right regardless of Special Use Permit restrictions.	Complete	This initiative was Implemented through a suspension of enforcement on March 19, 2020 and adopted by City Council by ordinance on April 18, 2020 (link) and will continue through the declared emergency or earlier upon a decision by the City Manager. In addition to allowing all restaurants to provide delivery services, the suspension of enforcement also covers restrictions on the hours that restaurants and food stores may receive deliveries. It also suspends enforcement of restrictions on hours of operation for restaurants, convenience stores, catering operations and automobile service stations (gasoline stations). In addition, staff suspended enforcement of the A frame sign regulations to allow businesses to set up signage which may be needed to ensure social distancing, clarify where pick up is taking place, etc. News of these initiatives were communicated to the business community through a variety of mechanisms, including eNews, postingsonthewebsite , direct communication to individual businesses, through organizations such as AEDP, Visit Alexandria, the Chamber of Commerce, and Old Town Business Association. Staff also participated in a webinar for restaurateurs to explain the provisions and answer questions.

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

14	<p><i>Allow Sidewalk/Parking Lot Vending By-Right</i></p> <p>Adopt emergency Text Amendment temporarily (through end of 2020) allowing a restaurant or retail establishment to vend on adjacent sidewalks or private parking lots.</p>	Complete	This initiative was implemented through a suspension of enforcement on March 19, 2020 and adopted by City Council by ordinance on April 18, 2020 (link) and will continue through the declared emergency or earlier upon a decision by the City Manager.
	<i>Small Business Rescue</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
15	<p><i>Outdoor Dining Expansion</i></p> <p>Adopt emergency Text Amendment to allow temporary (through November of 2020) administrative approval of expanded outdoor dining areas (to provide for increased distance between seats) and flexibility to reallocate seats between outdoor and indoor areas.</p>	Not Feasible	This initiative as not implemented as it was determined through consultation with the Health Department that it was not possible to ensure public safety with six-feet distancing and allow outdoor dining and also, to meet the requirements of the Governor's orders regarding assembly.

City Manager's Office

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April 28, 2020

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

16	<i>Off Premises Alcohol Sales</i> Adopt emergency Text Amendment to allow temporary (through end of 2020) off-premises alcohol sales for all restaurants (subject to ABC licensure)	Complete	This initiative was implemented through a suspension of enforcement on March 19, 2020 and adopted by City Council by ordinance on April 18, 2020 (link) and will continue through the declared emergency or earlier upon a decision by the City Manager.
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COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Small Business Rescue</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
17	<p><i>Free Saturday Parking</i></p> <p>Eliminate parking meter fees on Saturdays temporarily (through end of calendar year 2020).</p>	Complete	<p>Free Saturday Metered Parking was implemented starting on Saturday, April 4. Other changes to parking include:</p> <p>Food pickup zones: The City has also implemented reserved parking zones for food delivery and pickup in front of restaurants that have requested them.</p> <p>Enforcement Changes: In coordination with APD, we have also suspended enforcement of select parking regulations to ease the burden on residents and Parking Enforcement Officers. These include street sweeping restrictions (starting March 18), 72-hour rule violations (starting March 18), vehicle inspection violations (starting March 25), and residential permit parking (starting March 25). These enforcement changes were formally adopted by City Council on April 18, 2020.</p> <p>Parking Garage Operations: The City also reduced the hours of operation of the City's three largest parking garages starting on March 26 (Market Square, Courthouse, and 220 N. Union Street) and is only accepting credit card payment at those facilities to reduce contacts with cashiers.</p> <p>These changes are summarized on the TES COVID website:</p> <p>https://www.alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=114270#Parking</p>
18	<p><i>Seek Rent Deferrals</i></p> <p>Formal request to landlords to provide business tenants with rent deferrals/reductions.</p>	Not pursued	<p>Many landlords are working with businesses on dealing with overdue rent by deferrals, lease extensions, etc.</p>
19	<p><i>Business Recovery Task Force</i></p> <p>Create blue-ribbon task force to identify concepts for recovery of Alexandria's economy.</p>	To be initiated	<p>Joint City AEDP Task Force to be proposed.</p>

City Manager's Office

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April 28, 2020

COVID-19 RESPONSE & RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Attachment 5

	<i>Municipal Finance</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Comments</i>
20	<p><i>The City Manager is requested to provide budget memo responses on the following major budget modification scenarios:</i></p> <p><i>1) Revenue re-estimate projections assuming significant degradation of consumption-based revenues.</i></p>	Complete	<p>This item is addressed in the revised budget and CIP version 2.0.</p> <p>https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/budget/info/budget2021/FY%202021%20Proposed%20Budget%20Version%202.0.pdf</p>
	<p>2) Deferral of portion of proposed FY 2021 capital expenditures until FY 2022 to provide for retention of existing real estate tax rate (\$1.13).</p>	Complete	<p>This item is addressed in the revised budget and CIP version 2.0.</p> <p>https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/budget/info/budget2021/FY%202021%20Proposed%20Budget%20Version%202.0.pdf</p>
	<p>3) Proposed operating budget spending reductions to provide for an additional 1 or 2 cent real estate tax reduction (beyond the capital reductions proposed above).</p>	Not pursued	<p>This item was not addressed because we were already reducing the budget by \$56M and reducing the tax rate by 1 or 2 cents would require an additional \$8.5M to \$17M in proposed reductions or use of fund balance.</p>

NEED TO BUY OR RENT IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA?



START WITH A FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP AT THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOUSING EXPO

SATURDAYS DURING JUNE 2020

novahousingexpo.org  

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SIGN UP FOR A WEBINAR
OR TUNE IN ON FACEBOOK FOR THE REPLAY

Starting June 1, sign up on our website for webinars that will run live at 11 and 1.
Or, catch them when they air at 2 and 4 pm later the same day on Facebook.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

First Time Buying Programs: Outside the Beltway

Panel of representatives from Loudoun, Prince William,
and Fairfax Counties, as well as the Virginia Housing
Development Authority (VHDA) and the U.S. Department
of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

11 am Live webinar

2 pm Facebook replay

First Time Buying Programs: Inside the Beltway

Panel of representatives from Alexandria, Arlington,
Falls Church, VHDA and HUD

1 pm Live webinar

4 pm Facebook replay

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

The ABCs of Credit Scores

Presented by First Home Alliance, a Woodbridge
nonprofit that provides housing counseling services

11 am Live webinar

2 pm Facebook replay

Finding Rental Assistance

Panel of representatives from Loudoun, Prince William,
Fairfax, Alexandria, Arlington and Falls Church

1 pm Live webinar

4 pm Facebook replay

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

Are You Ready to Buy?

Presented by Burke & Herbert Bank

11 am Live webinar

2 pm Facebook replay

Homebuying Market Overview

Presented by the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors

1 pm Live webinar

4 pm Facebook replay

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Household Budgeting and Finance (English)

Presented by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Program

11 am Live webinar

2 pm Facebook replay

Household Budgeting and Finance (Spanish)

Presented by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Program

1 pm Live webinar

4 pm Facebook replay

This 10th annual event is a cooperative effort of Loudoun,
Arlington and Prince William Counties; the Cities of
Alexandria and Falls Church; and the
Virginia Housing Development Authority.



NEED TO BUY OR RENT IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA?



START WITH FREE & PRIVATE FINANCIAL COUNSELING AT THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOUSING EXPO WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS

DURING JUNE 2020

novahousingexpo.org



The Northern Virginia Housing Expo has again partnered with Britepaths, a Fairfax-based nonprofit, to provide you with a free, private, 45-minute financial counseling session with a certified, trained volunteer. Four sessions per hour will be available during scheduled hours on Saturdays from 10-2 starting June 6 and on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 starting June 10.

Visit our website starting June 1 to schedule a time for your 45-minute individual session.

COUNSELING APPOINTMENT HOURS

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Sessions available between 10 am and 2 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

Sessions available between 10 am and 2 pm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

Sessions available between 6-8 pm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

Sessions available between 6-8 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

Sessions available between 10 am and 2 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Sessions available between 10 am and 2 pm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

Sessions available between 6-8 pm



britepaths

guiding families
to a brighter future

This 10th annual event is a cooperative effort of Loudoun, Arlington and Prince William Counties; the Cities of Alexandria and Falls Church; and the Virginia Housing Development Authority. Event manager is Laura Nickle of Communi-k, Inc.; fiscal agent is First Home Alliance, a Woodbridge nonprofit.



NECESITA RENTAR O COMPRAR EN EL NORTE DE VIRGINIA?



HAGA AQUI SU PRIMERA PARADA NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOUSING EXPO

EVENTO VIRTUAL GRATUITO EN
VIVO A PARTIR DEL 1 DE JUNIO, 2020

novahousingexpo.org



ES TAN FACIL COMO 1, 2, 3!

1. VISITE NUESTRO EVENTO VIRTUAL A PARTIR DEL 1 DE JUNIO!

Explore docenas de exhibiciones con programas de asistencia de gobiernos locales, oportunidades para compra de Vivienda e información de profesionales en el campo de bienes raíces, préstamos hipotecarios y mucho más. Aproveche los talleres gratuitos y útiles para usted así consulta financiera personalizada con una organización sin fines de lucro diseñadas para ayudarlo a llegar a donde usted desea estar en el Norte de Virginia ya sea para rentar o este listo para comprar.

2. ASISTA A TALLERES GRATUITOS ONLINE CADA SABADO DURANTE EL MES DE JUNIO!

A partir del 1 de junio, suscríbase a los seminarios en la web que se realizaran en vivo a las 11 am y 1 pm y También podrían atenderlos más tarde a las 2pm y 4pm el mismo día en Facebook. Encontrará una variedad de temas útiles como:

Programas para Compradores por primera vez y Asistencia con la Renta en Loudoun, Prince William, Fairfax, Alexandria, Arlington and Falls Church • Presupuesto Familiar y Finanzas • Estas listo para Comprar? El ABC de Crédito y Puntaje • Estado Actual del Mercado Inmobiliario

3. ANOTESE A UNA SESION DE ASESORAMIENTO FINANCIERO GRATUITO DE 30 MINUTOS CON VOLUNTARIOS CERTIFICADOS DE BRITEPATHS ORGANIZACION SIN FINES DE LUCRO!



Este 10th Event Anual es un esfuerzo cooperativo con Loudoun, Arlington and Prince William Counties; las Ciudades de Alexandria y Falls Church; así como Virginia Housing Development Authority. Event manager is Laura Nickle of Communi-k, Inc.; fiscal agent is First Home Alliance, a Woodbridge nonprofit.

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Prince William
County Office
of Housing and
Community
Development



GOLD SPONSORS

Dulles Area
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Housing Master Plan Progress Report

Period: FY20 Q1-Q3

City of Alexandria, Office of Housing

Updated: 05.12.20

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	FY20 Q1-Q3 Impact (Jul 2019-Mar 2020)			Prior Reported Impact (Jan 2014-Jun 2019)	Total Impact (Jan 2014-Dec 2019)
	Completed	Underway	Pipeline	Prior Completed	Total Completed
Rental Units Created or Preserved/Rehabilitated	258	109	81	211	469
Created	Jackson Crossing			78	
	The Nexus at West Alex (Gateway at King and Beauregard)	74			
	New Hope Veterans Home (Aspen Street)			3	
	The Bloom (Carpenter's Shelter)		97		
	Fairlington Presbyterian Church (Waypoint at Fairlington)		81		
	Ellsworth Apartments	20			
	Friends of Guest House - 120 South Payne	4			
Preserved	Parkstone (Avana) Apartments	130			
	Arbelo Apartments			34	
	Longview Terrace Apartments			41	
	Community Lodgings			7	
	Lynhaven Apartments			28	
	Lacy Court Apartments	24		20	
	Bellefonte Permanent Supervised Apartments		12		
	Friends of Guest House - 120 South Payne	6			
Units Created through the Development Process	15	22	135	102	117
	Alexandria Memory Care Community (Silverado)			2	
	Goodwin House		6		
	Cambria Square (Pickett's Place/The Delaney)			4	
	Notch 8			12	
	Station 650 at Potomac Yard			8	
	The Bradley (Braddock Station/Braddock Metro Place)			10	
	Parc Meridian at Eisenhower Station			33	
	The Thornton (Hunting Terrace)			24	
	2901 Eisenhower Avenue	13	8		
	Oakville Triangle Site		65		
	Gables Old Town North (ABC/Giant site)			9	
	Braddock Gateway Phase II		4		
	Potomac Yard Landbay H/I		9		
	Sunrise Senior Living		2		
	The Foundry (Block 6A)*	2			
	Eisenhower East Block 20		15		
	1200 North Henry		11		
	Monday Properties		5		
	Silverstone Senior Living		7		
	Braddock Gateway Phase III		4		
	600 Royal Street (Bus Barn)		12		
	The Aspire Independent Living		9		
Beauregard Committed Units	0	113	0	198	198
	St. James Plaza (Fillmore)			93	
	Church of the Resurrection		113		
	Southern Towers			105	
Units Created or Preserved through Redevelopment Support to ARHA	0	52	0	0	0
	Ramsey Homes		52		

* Project also includes three units affordable at 80% AML

Housing Master Plan (Jan 2014-Dec 2025)	
Target	Balance
660	191

336	219
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494	296
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174	174
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TYPE OF ACTIVITY	FY20 Q1-Q3 Impact (Jul 2019-Mar 2020)	Prior Reported Impact (Jan 2014-Jun 2019)	Total Impact (Jan 2014-Dec 2019)
	Loans Closed/Grants Issued	Prior Closed/Issued	Total Closed/Issued
Rental Accessibility Modification Projects [Grants]	1	12	13
Homebuyer Loans	12	40	52
Homeowner Rehab Loans/RTA Projects [Rebuilding Together: Alexandria Grants]	9	90	99

Housing Master Plan (Jan 2014-Dec 2025)	
Target	Balance
24	11
72	20
240	141

HOUSING MASTER PLAN PROGRESS REPORT SUMMARY	FY20 Q1-Q3 Impact (Jul 2019-Mar 2020)	Prior Reported Impact (Jan 2014-Jun 2019)	Total Impact (Jan 2014-Dec 2019)
	Created & Preserved (Completed) Units/Loans Closed/Grants Issued		
TOTAL	295	653	948

Housing Master Plan (Jan 2014-Dec 2025)	
Target	Balance
2,000	1,052

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	FY20 Q1-Q3 Impact (Jul 2019-Mar 2020)			Prior Reported Impact (Jan 2014-Jun 2019)	Total Impact (Jan 2014-Dec 2019)
	Completed	Underway	Pipeline	Prior Completed	Total Completed
Workforce Affordable Units (70-80% AML) Created through the Development Process	117	0	10	0	117
The Foundry (Block 6A) (also see above)	3				
Park Center			10		
Parkstone (Avana) Apartments	114				